

Scianni, Melissa

From: Blumenfeld, Jared
Sent: Wednesday, February 18, 2015 5:23 PM
To: Diamond, Jane
Subject: Fwd: Please act to save San Francisco Bay in Redwood City from Cargill development

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Steve Raab <[s\[REDACTED\]](#)>
Date: February 18, 2015 at 1:50:41 PM MST
To: Jared Blumenfeld <blumenfeld.jared@epa.gov>
Subject: Please act to save San Francisco Bay in Redwood City from Cargill development

Apologies for sending an email a minute ago with a typo in your name. - Regards.

To: Jared Blumenfeld, EPA Regional Administrator, Region 9

Dear Mr Blumenfeld,

San Francisco Bay's waters are under attack, and we need your urgent leadership to preserve federal protection for them. Many years ago salt ponds were created along Redwood City's bay waterfront and have been operated by Cargill. During the past several years Cargill has been working to repurpose this bay land for residential and commercial development that could expand the population of Redwood City by one third and destroy irreplaceable wetlands. Such an outcome would be a tragedy, as this area is clearly a part of the bay and should be restored to natural wetlands, in fact property inland adjacent to this site again suffered seasonal flooding during last months rains. As a longtime Redwood City resident I feel that I must speak up to preserve the integrity of the bay.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is poised to relinquish federal Clean Water Act jurisdiction on San Francisco Bay salt ponds at the request of Cargill, the largest private corporation in the United States. Cargill's heavy lobbying of Corps lawyers resulted in an internal legal memo that would reverse decades of federal protection for Bay salt ponds, and upend long-established precedents. That novel, unilateral re-interpretation of the Clean Water Act was created in secret, without EPA consultation, Congressional approval, or opportunity for public input. It's outrageous!

Cargill has brazenly declared it wants to win exemption from the Clean Water Act and other legal protections for salt ponds in Redwood City, California, so it can pave over wetlands to build thousands of homes in the Bay there. **But the EPA can still preserve legal protection for the Bay's salt ponds.** We urge you to use your authority to prevent the U.S. Army Corps from declining Clean Water Act jurisdiction on Bay salt ponds, and ensure that the EPA retains the lead responsibility for evaluating federal protection of these important waters of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Raab

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